United States Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Issues Proposed Plan to Protect Human Health at the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site

Community Update **July 2020**

Public Participation is essential to the success of EPA's community involvement program. If you have any questions, please contact:

Josh Smeraldi
Remedial Project Manager
212-637-4302
[HYPERLINK
"mailto:smeraldi.josh@epa.gov"]

Shereen Kandil
Community Involvement Coordinator
212-637-4333
[HYPERLINK
"mailto:kandil.shereen@epa.gov"]

~~[add public meeting info]~~

For more information on the site or to review the Proposed Plan, visit:

Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently proposed a plan ~~that is~~ to address~~es~~ contaminated soil, gas trapped in the soil, called soil gas,~~soil gas~~, sewer water, waste, and groundwater ~~present~~ at the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund site (Riverside Industrial Park or Site). The ~~As part of its plan, and b~~Based on an evaluation of ~~the~~ various alternatives, EPA, in consultation with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), is proposing ~~recommends~~ the following actions: ~~alternatives, which are seperated into five media for this site.~~

- *~~Waste:~~* **~~Remove al~~ and dispose of waste~~Off-Site Disposal of Waste~~:** ~~This alternative consists of transferring W~~waste from underground storage tanks (USTs), contaminated soil around the USTs, and various wastes found across the ~~S~~site ~~would~~ill be transferred into appropriate containers or transport vehicles for off-site treatment and/or disposal.

- *~~Sewer Water:~~* **Removeal and dispose of sewer water~~Off-Site Disposal of Sewer Water~~.** ~~This alternative consists of transferring the C~~contaminated sewer water and solids from a defunct ~~a inactive~~ sewer line ~~would~~ill be transferred into appropriate containers or transport vehicles for off-site treatment and/or disposal along with proper closure of the sewer line.

- *~~Soil Gas:~~* Assess impacts of soil gas on indoor air in buildings on the site and put into place engineering and institutional controls. **~~Institutional Controls, Air Monitoring or and Engineering Controls for Soil Gas:~~** ~~(existing occupied buildings) and Site-Wide Engineering Controls (future buildings). This alternative consists of eviablishing or adding to C~~current site-wide deed notices and/or Classification Exception Areas (CEAs) ~~will be established or amended to provide notice of certain property use restrictions. An assessment of s~~Sub-slab soil gas and/or indoor air quality will be assessed in existing buildings at the site ~~performed~~ and, if needed, vapor systems would be installed to ~~some means of protecting the future occupants~~protection for future occupants from vapor intrusion ~~risks/hazards will be installed~~. Buildings constructed in the future would ~~ill~~ include a vapor barrier or vapor intrusion mitigation system to protect ~~future~~ occupants. EPA would ensure that site-wide deed notices and appropriate restrictions are established or amended to provide notice of certain property use restrictions.

- *~~Soil/Fill:~~* Cap and take other precautions to protect people from contaminated soil. Lead-contaminated soil and fill in the vicinity of Building #7 would be excavated and disposed of off-site. The bulkhead would~~ill~~ be reinforced or reconstructed, and a cap would~~ill~~ be placed over contaminated areas. ~~Institutional Controls, Engineering Controls, Focused Removal with Off-Site Lead-Contaminated Soil/Fill Disposal, and Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid Removal of Soil/Fill:. For this alternative, d~~In addition, d~~D~~eed notices will be recorded, and fencing will be maintained and ~~/or~~ enhanced as appropriate across the site. ~~The bulkhead will be reinforced or reconstructed, and a cap will be placed~~

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~~over contaminated areas. Furthermore, l~~ ~~lead-contaminated soil and/or fill in the vicinity of Building #7 will also be excavated and disposed of off-site.~~

- ~~*Groundwater:* Treat contaminated groundwater. Groundwater would be treated with a combination of pumping and treating and targeted in-place treatment. Institutional Controls, Pump and Treat, and Targeted Periodic In-Situ Groundwater Remediation – This alternative consists of i~~nstitutional controls ~~wouldill be used~~ to prevent potable use of the groundwater. ~~Additionally, a pump and treat system combined with a targeted, periodic in-situ, or on-site, treatment will remove contaminants in the groundwater.~~

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Public Involvement

EPA will take public comment on its proposed plan until August 21, 2020. As part of the public comment period, EPA will hold a virtual public meeting on the proposed plan on August 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. To participate in the meeting via webinar, please visit EPA's website for more information: [HYPERLINK "http://www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial"]. To participate by telephone, please call into the conference line: (315) 565-0493, Code ID: 304001388#. Please register in advance of the meeting by visiting [HYPERLINK "https://epa-riverside-proposed-plan.eventbrite.com/" \t "_blank"] or by emailing or calling Shereen Kandil at [HYPERLINK "mailto:kandil.shereen@epa.gov"] or 212-637-4333.

Anyone interested in receiving a hard copy of the proposed plan or the materials for the public meeting should contact Shereen Kandil by Thursday, July 30, 2020.

Verbal comments on the proposed plan may be provided during the virtual public meeting. Written comments on the proposed plan should be e-mailed or postmarked no later than August 21, 2020 to: [HYPERLINK "mailto:smeraldi.josh@"]epa.gov or Josh Smeraldi, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10007-1866

Past Cleanup Activities

In October 2009, EPA ~~first~~ responded ~~to the site in October 2009 when~~ to an oil spill into the Passaic River orginating from ~~a pipe at~~ the site ~~was reported~~. EPA and NJDEP ~~responded to the spill and~~ traced the source of the oil spill to two basement tanks located in a vacant building on Lot 63 (see Figure 1). EPA found several hazardous substances present in the tanks and initiated an emergency removal action to stop the discharge and secure the source. Further EPA investigation of Lots 63 and 64 led to the discovery of several underground storage tanks (USTs), ~~numerous~~ aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), and various other wastes. EPA performed removal activities between 2011 and 2014 to address the conditions on Lots 63 and 64 that included removing liquids from the basements of the vacant buildings, investigating the USTs, investigating and disposing the ASTs, drums and smaller containers, and soil, groundwater, and waste sampling.

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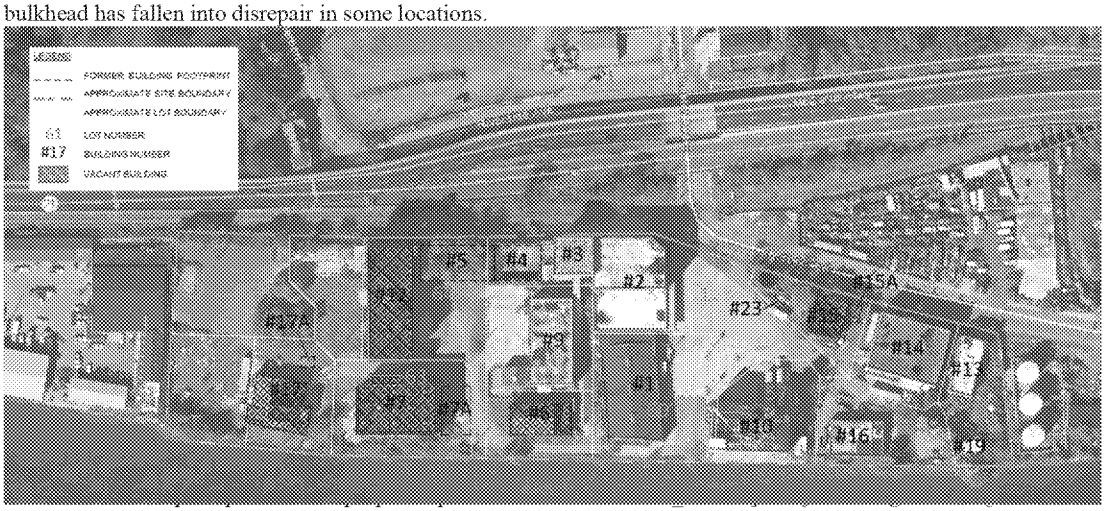
After taking ~~the aforementioned~~those immediate actions to protect human health and the environment and performing site investigations, Riverside Industrial Park was added to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites in May 2013. In May 2014, EPA entered into a legal agreement with PPG Industries, Inc. (PPG), one of the 18 potentially responsible parties identified at the site, to perform a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

Site Description

The 7.6-acre, partially active Riverside Industrial Park site is located in the North Ward community of the City of Newark, ~~Essex County,~~ New Jersey. Both Riverside Avenue and McCarter Highway border the sSite on the west along with a segment of railroad tracks adjacent to McCarter Highway. Currently, the central and northern portions of the site contain active industrial/commercial businesses, while the southern portion of the site contains mostly vacant buildings. The Passaic River borders the site on the east. Sections of steel, concrete, and wooden bulkhead provide a retaining wall along most of the site adjacent to the Passaic River; however, the bulkhead has fallen into disrepair in some locations.



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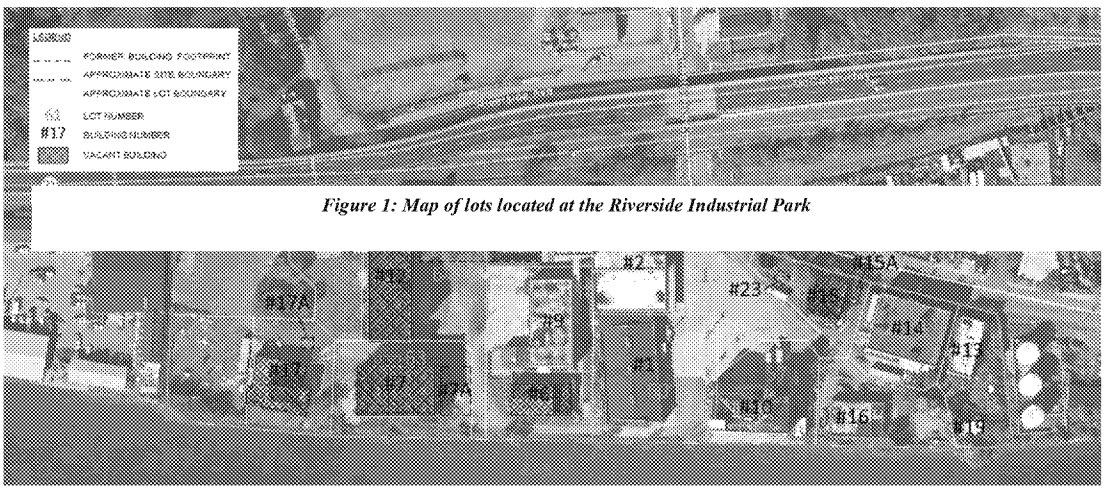

Figure 1: Map of lots located at the Riverside Industrial Park